

The vital link between early MEP design and decarbonisation



WHITECODE
CONSULTING

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Agenda



Landscape

A changing landscape for energy compliance- in new build world, will this filter into the existing stock



Building
Regulations
15th June 2022

Future Homes
Standard
Consultation
Spring 2023

Future Homes
Standard
published
Autumn 2025

FHS comes into
effect
2026

Will this be
pushed back?

Net Zero by
2050?

Updates to Part F
Updates to Part L
to SAP10
methodology
New Part O
New Part S

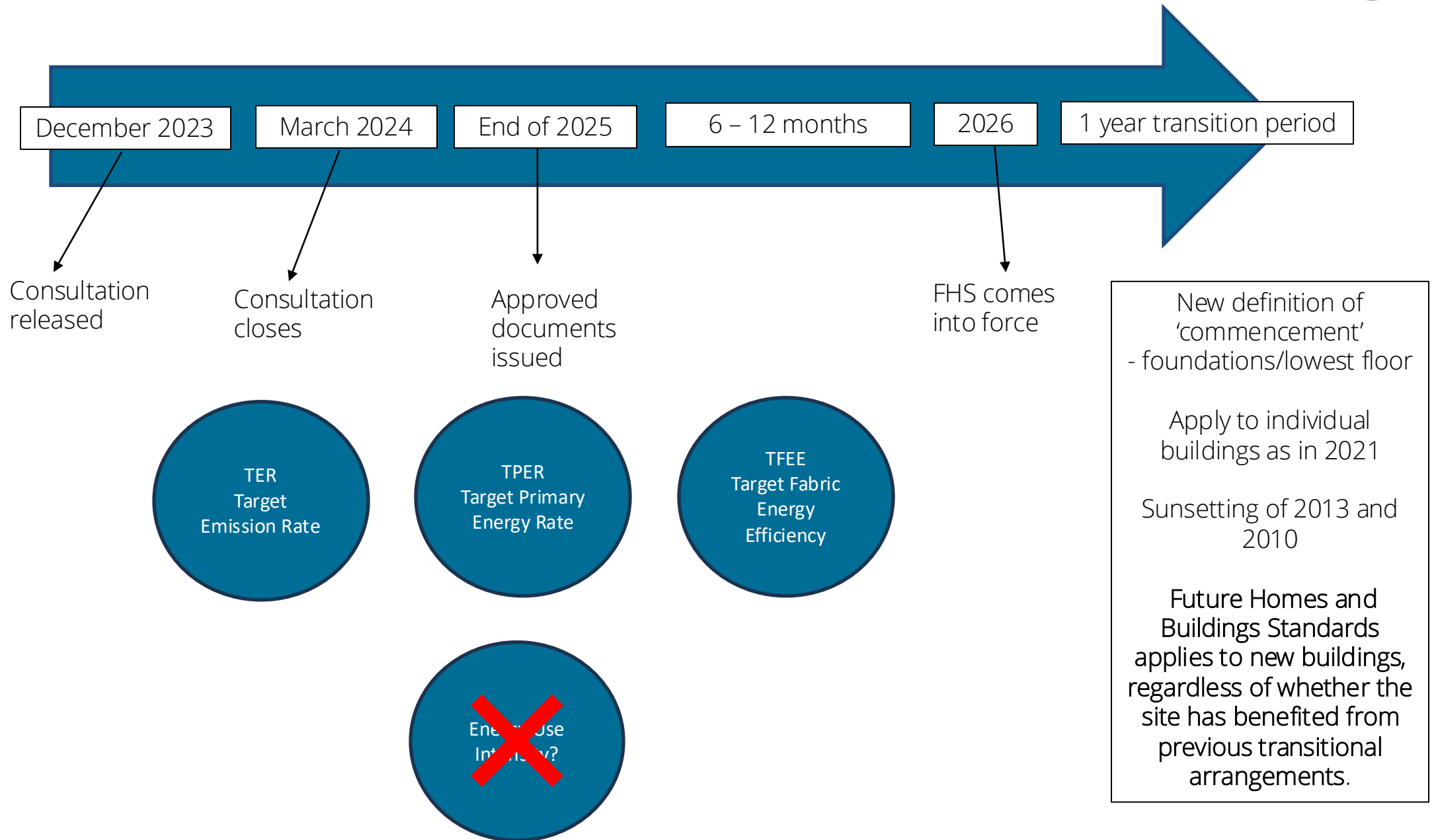


SAP11 to be
released

Legal
agreement
to achieve

Future Homes standard

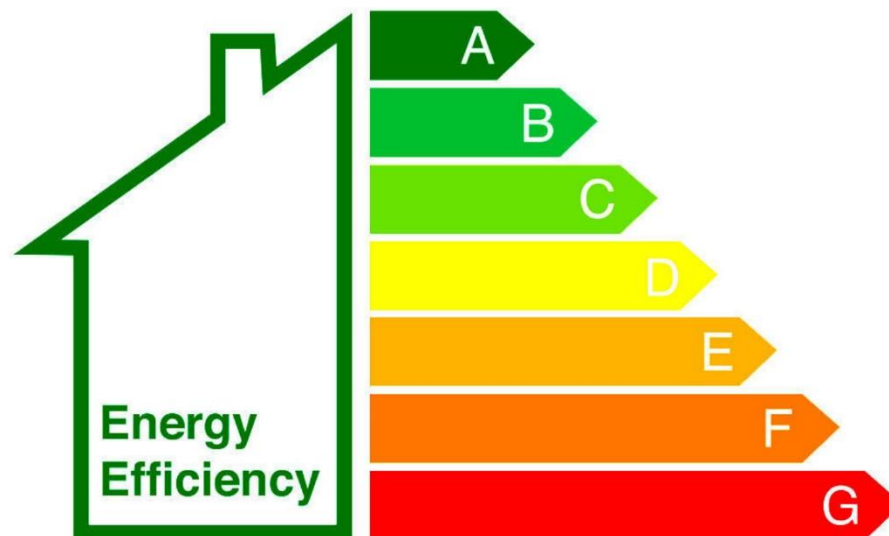
Future Homes and Buildings Standard



EPCs



Should be used as a tool for Net Zero Carbon ready buildings

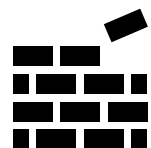
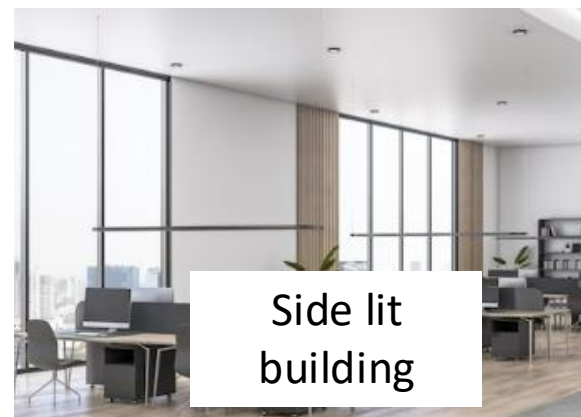
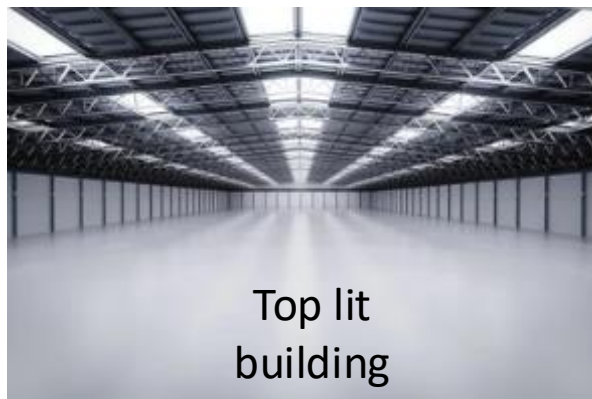


32% of buyers interviewed by Mortgage Advice Bureau would consider higher rated EPCs for their next property

- Based on an energy cost metric NOT energy efficiency or carbon metric
- Starting to notice a push to desire for EPC B ratings linked with Green Mortgage Rates
- Rentals now required to be E rated as are offices... They are hinting this might go to C.
- Consumers interested in low running costs
- EPC reform bill transitions to HEM in second half of 2026, will this include non-domestic

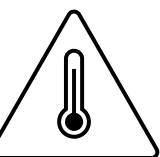
Non Domestic

Performance requirements for non-domestic buildings



2021 fabric standards
PLUS enhanced air tightness

2021 fabric standards

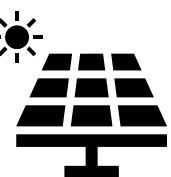


Radiant electric heating

ASHP
Or 4th gen heat network



Enhanced lighting efficacy (105lm/cW)
Enhanced heat recovery efficiency



75%

40%

40%

20%

Minimum efficiencies for services



COP 3.5



COP 2.5



105lm/cW



CIBSE
CP1



Include
within
fixed
services

Real world performance



Expected performance

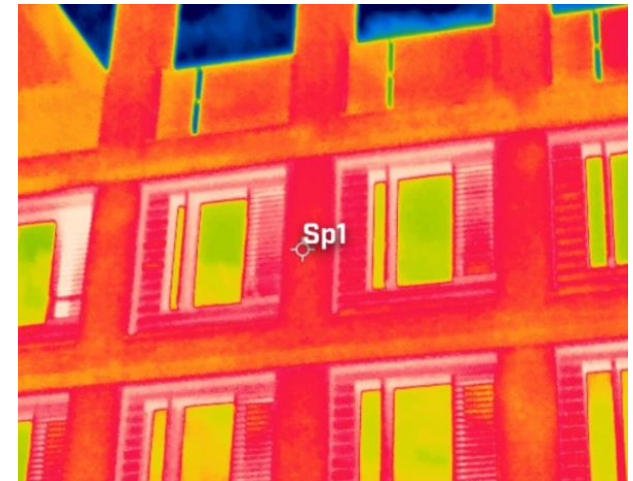
MIND THE GAP

Measured performance

Poor
build
quality

Higher
bills

- Voluntary post occupancy performance testing
- Use of Smart Meter Enabled Thermal Efficiency Rating (SMETER)
- Future Homes Standard 'brand'
- Increased commissioning requirements



Energy challenges with decarbonisation

Are heat pumps the solution?



Cost to run



- Average Seasonal efficiency of heat pump is COP 2.3
- Cost per kWh is 4 x more for electricity

43% increase
in bill to run
heat pump

Issues with air sources heat pumps



Cost to
install

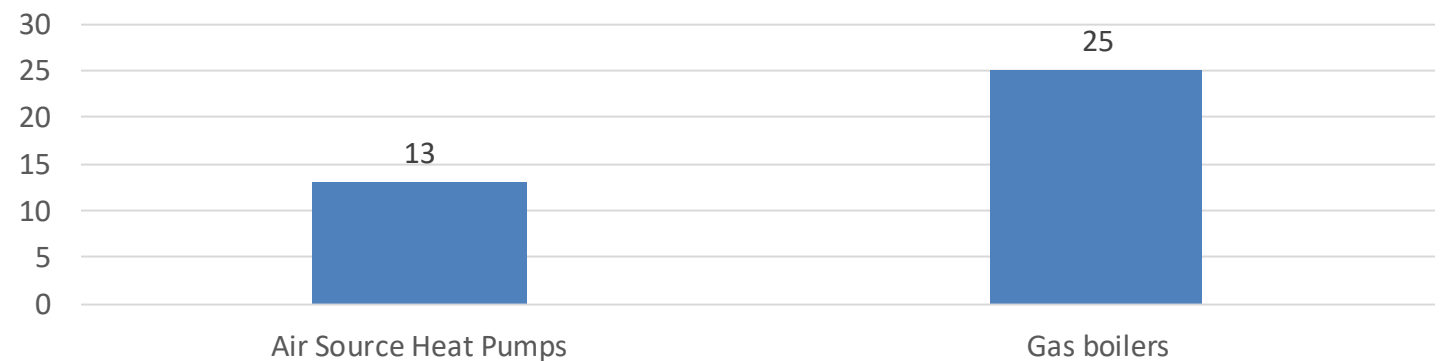


£6000



£1000

Life
expectancy



Acoustic constraints



Windows are likely to be closed during sleeping hours if noise within bedrooms exceeds the following limits.

- a. 40dB $L_{Aeq,T}$ averaged over 8 hours (between 11pm and 7am).
- b. 55dB L_{AFmax} more than 10 times a night (between 11pm and 7am).

Enhanced
air flows for
traditional
housing



20l/s to
50l/s per
room In-line
extract fans

Boosted
MVHR

Heat pump
hot water
cylinder



MVHR with
tempered
air



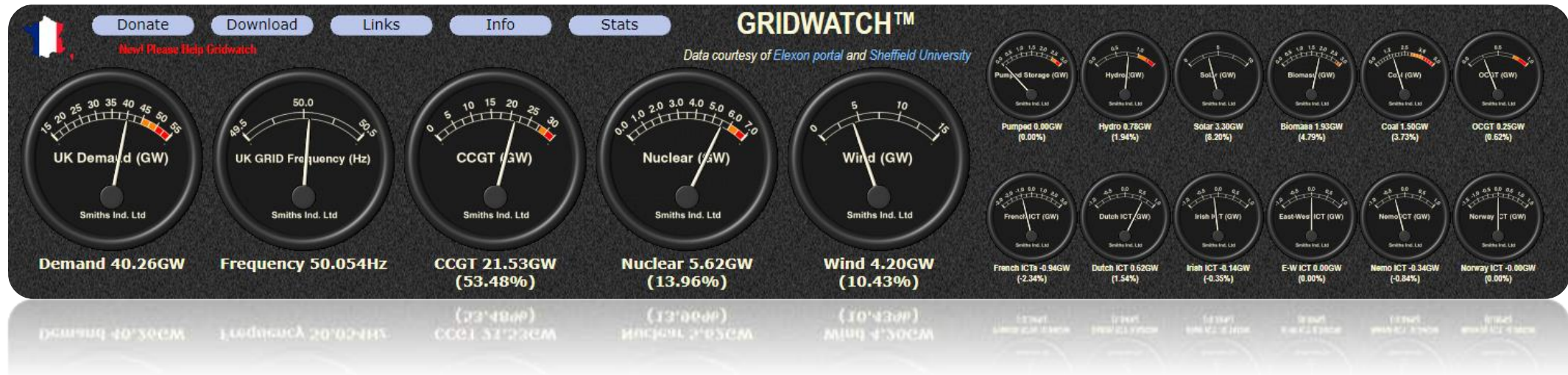
Heat
pump/full
cooling



Energy prices and electricity generation



Winter generation mix

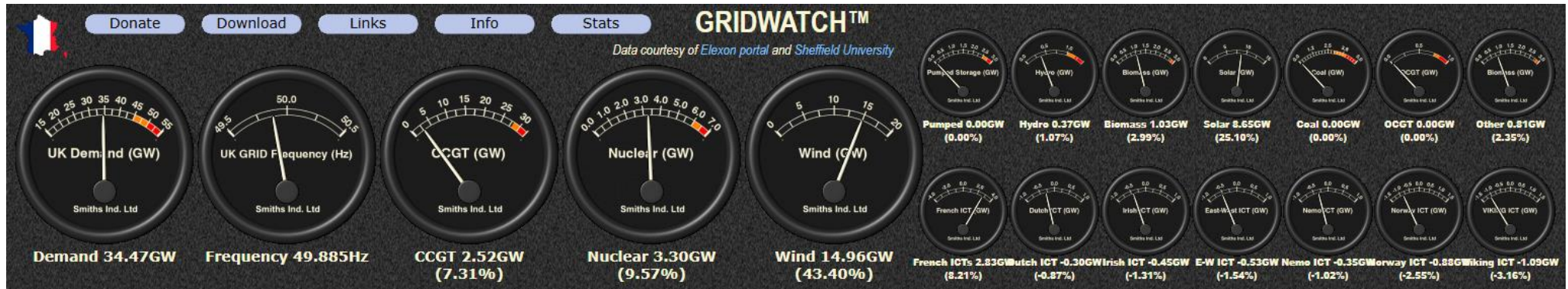


- 53% of peak power is coming from combined cycle gas turbines
- High electricity prices have been driven by this
- Contribution from wind power and renewable sources is increasing, but this is not happening fast enough

Energy prices and electricity generation



Summer generation mix



- 43% of peak power coming from wind!
- 25% from the sun!

The power conundrum with going green



Max UK
installed
capacity
42GW

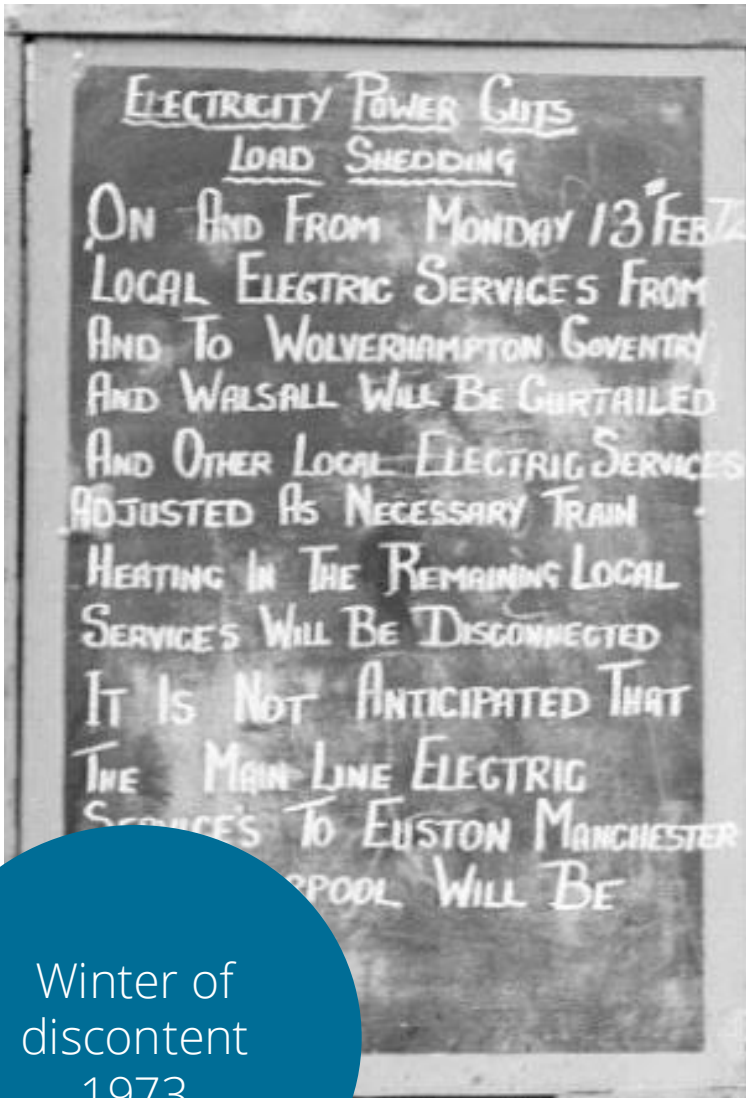


- Standard home with gas boiler
- 1kW average per year of electricity



- Had to import power from Europe twice last Winter
- Standard home with ASHP + EV charging
- 1kW average per year of electricity PLUS 5kW for the heat pump PLUS 7kW for the EV charging
- TOTAL 12kW
- And that's per home at 230,000 new homes per year that's an additional 1.4GW

The power conundrum with going green



Winter of
discontent
1973

- Our office in South Africa is used to the term 'load shedding'
- The UK could be potentially be out of power at peak times



Winter
2028?

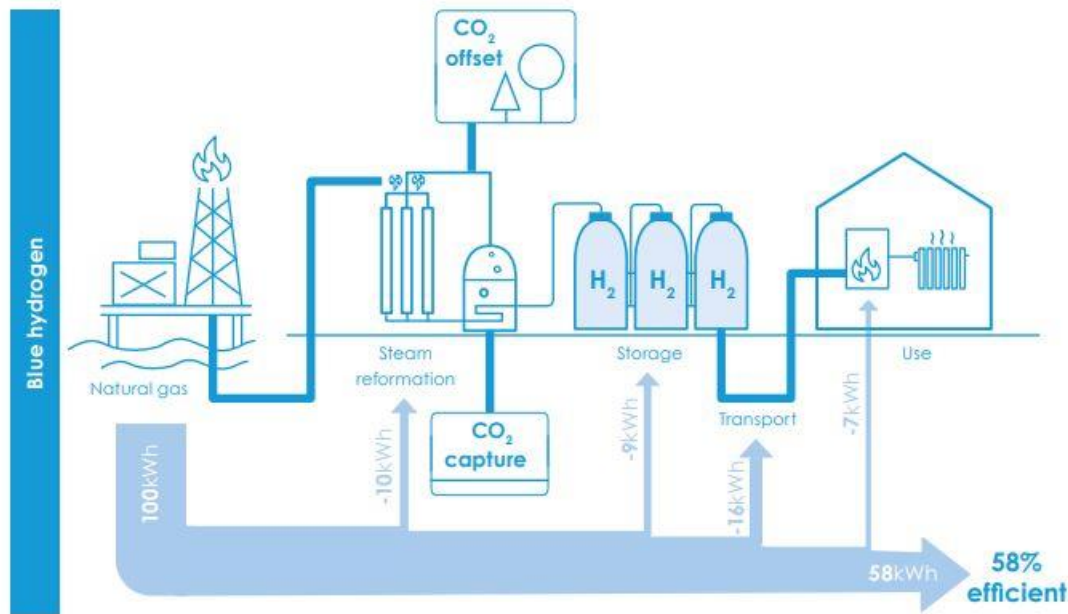
Consider the Fabric First

So before we decarbonize – consider the fabric

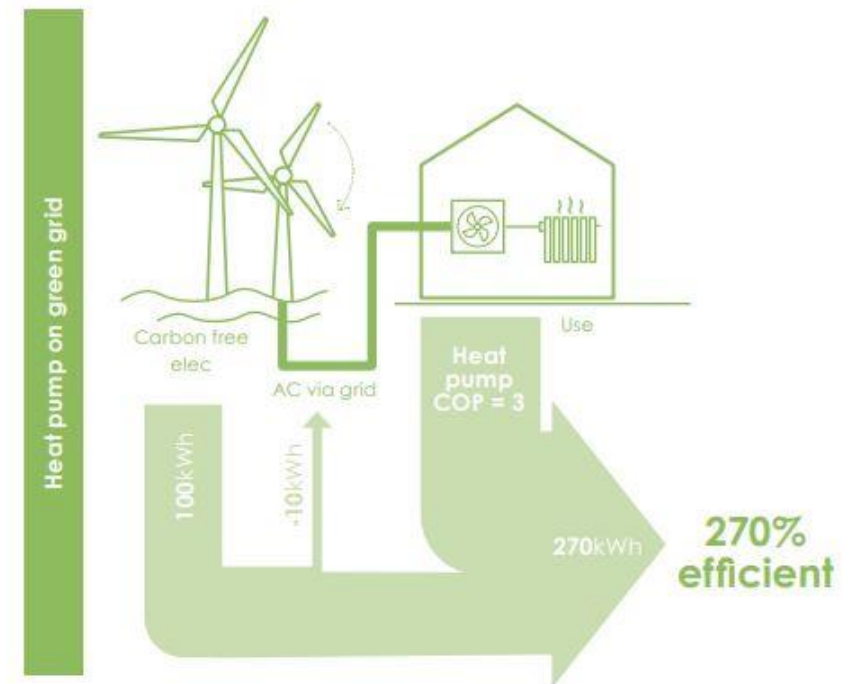


Is heat pumps the only solution?

Is hydrogen a decarbonisation route for heat in buildings?



- Gas supply industry advocates blue hydrogen but this emits CO₂ and upstream GHG emissions
- Large scale carbon capture is proposed to deal with 90% of these emissions
- Significant uncertainties and large scale hydrogen storage required



Are heat pumps the solution for existing stock???

Hydrogen ready boilers



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

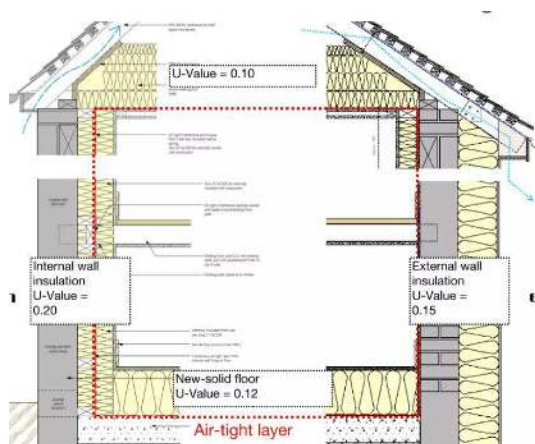
Hydrogen Strategy Update to
the Market: December 2024

- Boilers which will be able to run on hydrogen blend up to 20% and amended to run on 100% hydrogen with a few part changes

- Uncertain future for roll out of hydrogen
- Kimberley Clarke have firmed up plans for 3 UK Hydrogen plants – one opposite our office in Northfleet

Why do you Need an MEP consultant?

So.. What is the future of energy in 2026 and beyond?



- New build Building Regulations, SAP, HEM and Future Homes Standard are pushing us down the heat pump route
- There are issues with cost, power demand acoustics with Heat pumps
- We must focus on fabric first approach to reduce the overall demand (kWh/year) for existing stock
- But energy targets need to be extended to the existing building stock
- Hydrogen roll out needs to accelerate (this is not included in the FHS calculation as an option), but could decarbonise existing buildings?
- **Early MEP input will guide you through this minefield of delivery issues.**

Thank you for listening

Q&A session

